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News Release

Durham Police Department

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Crime Alert

Durham police are issuing a crime alert following a series of attempted robberies in the parking lots of Wells-Fargo banks. Three incidents have been reported within an eight-day period.

The incidents include:

1. **April 8 in the parking lot of Wells-Fargo Bank, 3600 North Duke Street** – A female was getting out of her car with a deposit bag shortly before 3 p.m. when a male approached her and tried to grab the bag. She struggled with him and he threw her to the ground. He fled when three males approached and tried to disrupt the robbery. Nothing was taken. The suspect was described as a tall, slim black male in his 20s. He had a mustache and was wearing a dirty white T-shirt and blue jeans. He fled in a stolen gray Buick, which was recovered several days later.
2. **April 12 in the parking lot of Wells-Fargo Bank, 3600 North Duke Street** – A female, who was carrying a deposit bag, was opening the door to the bank around 12:30 p.m. when a male ran up behind her and tried to grab her deposit bag. She screamed and threw the bag inside the bank. The suspect fled in a brown or tan late 1990s/early 2000s Honda Accord driven by a second person. The suspect was described as a tall black male in his 20s with a medium build.
3. **April 15 in the parking lot of Wells-Fargo Bank, 2821 Durham-Chapel Hill Boulevard** – A male was carrying a deposit bag to the bank around 12:20 p.m. when a male ran up behind him and tried to grab the bag. The suspect struggled and yelled for help while the suspect kicked him in the shins and punched him in the face several times. When the suspect couldn't get the bag, he ran to a boxy-shaped blue late model Toyota or Honda and fled. The suspect was described as a tall, thin black male in his late 30s or early 40s. He was wearing a blue ball cap, a burgundy shirt and dark pants.

Anyone with information on any of these cases is asked to call Sgt. Cloninger at (919) 560-4582, ext. 29240, Investigator Salmon at (919) 560-4281, ext. 29238 or CrimeStoppers at (919) 683-1200.

CrimeStoppers pays cash rewards for information leading to arrests in felony cases and callers never have

to identify themselves.

The Durham Police Department is providing the following crime prevention tips:

- Be aware of your surroundings. If you see anything suspicious, do not hesitate to call 911.
- Do not carry extra cash or valuables. If you must carry a deposit bag or other cash, try to carry in a way that it is not easily visible.
- Have someone go with you when you make a deposit.
- Avoid loiterers or people hanging out in groups.
- Walk briskly and with confidence.
- If you are robbed or assaulted, report the crime to the police. Try to describe your attacker as accurately as possible and take note of any vehicles involved in the incident.